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# Weekly Views

From the Office of J. David Donahue, Commissioner

***"If you can dream it, you can do it."***

***Walt Disney***

***-submitted by Mike Rupe of Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility***

Friday, February 1, 2008

Branchville Correctional Facility was selected for the BEST DOG TRAINER EXCELLENCE AWARD. The Second Chance at Life greyhound program CEO presented commendations to Branchville SCAL dog handlers and staff for their hard work and participation.

Correctional Industrial Facility held a "closing out" auction of the PEN Product's Food Industry Plant. The proceeds, totaling more than \$240,000, will go to the Department of Administration. Clearing out this food processing equipment will allow for the start-up of the new joint venture with Ready Built Transmissions, which will provide jobs for up to 300 offenders providing marketable skills and increasing post-release employment opportunities.

The Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted its first Inmate-to-Workmate congratulatory event. Two students who completed the first module received certificates.

Rockville Correctional Facility conducted a GED Graduation Ceremony, with refreshments provided by the Vocational Culinary Arts class.

Thirteen 13 female students from the Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility graduated from the Purposeful Living Unit Served. The evening consisted of a ceremony and a reception that followed with the students and their family.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility INShape committee hosted Healthy Sandwich Day and posted exercise tips along with healthy recipes for staff working to lose 10 pounds in 10 weeks.

Sixty (60) bicycles refurbished by offenders at Pendleton Correctional Facility were donated to the Cathedral Kitchen Breakfast Program and Pantry in Indianapolis.

Correctional Industrial Facility recently made a donation to the local shelter out of Anderson, Indiana known as "The Bridge". Items donated included TV's, cell phones, fans, and tennis shoes.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility donated over 600 of non-perishable food items to St. Mark's Food Bank to help replenish their shelves after a very busy holiday season. Both state and contractual employees donated the items.

The Division of Construction Services received commendations from J.R. Kelly Company for their partnership in preconstruction efforts for a Purdue University project. In addition, dorm furniture was salvaged that will be reutilized by DOC.